

and work on this reauthorization. I would also like to extend my thanks to the ranking member of our committee, Mr. MCKEON, for his work. Finally, I would like to thank the ranking member of my subcommittee, Mr. PLATTS, for his work on this reauthorization.

I also would like to thank the staff who have worked many hours on the bill. For the majority, Deborah Koolbeck, Denise Forte, and Alexander Ceja, and for the minority, Brad Thomas and Susan Ross.

This amendment increases the ability of the Corporation for National and Community Service to tap into the pool of potential volunteers, which gives us a better opportunity to meet challenges facing our Nation's communities today.

Some of the changes in the manager's amendment include: the amendment improves the reach and capacity of the Summer of Service. This program is aimed to increase civil responsibility and community service among 5th-12th graders through summer service-learning programs. Getting younger kids involved in service is a good investment. Studies show that the earlier we get folks involved in the volunteer service the more likely they will stay in for their lifetime.

We have improved the National Civilian Conservation Corps, or the NCCC. This valuable program has a focus on disaster preparation. NCCC and volunteers have helped during disasters like Katrina. Because of the disaster focus, there is a need for supervisors and training instructors with a background in law enforcement, rescue and emergency and disaster preparedness. The amendment allows retired law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel to be part of the management of the NCCC.

My amendment makes the Retired Senior Volunteer Program a competitive grant program by 2013. I believe competition spurs innovation, and this will strengthen the program.

Also included in this amendment are incentive grants for the Senior Corps program. These grants are designed to bolster the capacity of current exceptional Senior Corps programs.

Given that the RSVP program is becoming a competitive process, it is expected that the RSVP programs which meet the eligibility requirements will be a majority of incentive grant applicants and recipients.

Finally, I have also worked with Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. SESTAK, and Mr. SOUDER and have included changes that they suggested in the manager's amendment. I want to thank them for their great ideas.

Our national service laws were last authorized 15 years ago. We have worked with our colleagues across the aisle and with the service community to renew the spirit of service in our Nation through the GIVE Act.

I hope you will join me and support my amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition to the amendment although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Without objection, the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. PLATTS. I want to commend the ranking member for offering this manager's amendment which makes several very important changes to the GIVE Act.

Most importantly, this amendment includes the language that would allow the Corporation for National and Community Service to support individuals who fill national service positions in small organizations that do not receive AmeriCorps grants.

This language was originally proposed by Mr. SOUDER in committee, and the manager's amendment reflects the bipartisan approach and the bipartisan compromise that was reached to infuse more individual control and local flexibility into the national service programs.

Also, I would like to reference that this amendment injects fair competition into the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program by requiring all programs to be competitively reevaluated by fiscal year 2013. For too long, these programs have continued to receive funding without any effort to determine if those programs are successfully making a difference in their communities, and this amendment will ensure that this is no longer the case.

So, I urge a "yes" vote in support of the amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. MCKEON

The Acting CHAIRMAN. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 2 printed in House Report 110-539.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Acting CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 2 offered by Mr. MCKEON: Page 50, strike lines 21 through 23 and insert the following:

(5) in subsection (d) (as so redesignated), in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "subsection (b) or (d) of"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) PRIORITY FOR VETERANS.—Priorities established under subparagraphs (A) and (B) shall include priorities for programs that—

"(i) recruit veterans, particularly returning veterans, into service opportunities;

"(ii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a member of the family is deployed; and

"(iii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment."; and

Page 64, strike line 23 and all that follows through page 65, line 10, and insert the following:

(3) in subsection (d), in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), strike "the Corporation may include—" and insert "the Corporation—" ; and

(B) by striking subparagraphs (A) through (G) and inserting the following:

"(A) shall include national service programs that—

"(i) recruit veterans, particularly returning veterans, into service opportunities;

"(ii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families while a member of the family is deployed; and

"(iii) promote community-based efforts to meet the unique needs of military families when a member of the family returns from a deployment; and

"(B) may include—

"(i) national service programs that conform to the national service priorities in effect under section 122(d);

"(ii) innovative national service programs;

"(iii) national service programs that are well established in one or more States at the time of the application and are proposed to be expanded to additional States using assistance provided under section 121;

"(iv) grant programs in support of other national service programs if the grant programs are to be conducted by nonprofit organizations with a demonstrated and extensive expertise in the provision of services to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs; and

"(v) professional corps programs described in section 122(a)(8)."

Page 85, after line 3, insert the following new section:

SEC. 1406. REPORT ON VETERANS SERVING IN APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

Subtitle D of title I (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.) is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 150. REPORT ON VETERANS SERVING IN APPROVED NATIONAL SERVICE POSITIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation shall report annually to the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate the number and percentage of veterans serving in approved national service positions.

"(b) ANNUAL GOALS.—In the report described in subsection (a), the Corporation shall outline strategies and goals for increasing the number and percentage of veterans serving in approved national service positions each year, including strategies being undertaken to recruit veterans to serve in such positions, and include an evaluation of progress in meeting such goals."

The Acting CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 1015, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCKEON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of this amendment which will enhance the GIVE Act by codifying our commitment to ensuring veterans can serve and be served within our national service programs.